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Dean E. McConnell

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of) Oroup Art Unit Unknown
Dean E. McConnell)) Examiner: Unknown
Serial No.: 10/631,188)
Filed: July 31, 2003)
For: THERMAL JOINT AND BONE COMPRESSION SYSTEM))

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of candor and good faith required of each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a U.S. patent application, Applicant hereby discloses the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO Form SB/08. A copy of each of the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO Form SB/08 is enclosed. Applicant requests that these document(s) be considered and made of record in this application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing of the first Office Action on the merits and no certification under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the reference(s) disclosed are, or are considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

Respectfully submitted,

Dean E. McConnell

Registration No. 44,916

Attachments: Form PTO SB/08

Copies of Reference(s)

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PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

US-US-

Complete if Known		
Application Number	10/631,188	
Filing Date	July 31, 2003	
First Named Inventor	Dean E. McConnell	
Art Unit	Not Known	
Examiner Name	Not Known	
Attorney Docket Number		

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Sheet					
			U. S. PATENT	DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ^{2 (# known)} US-5,466,250	11/14/1995	Johnson, Jr. et al.	
	ļ	us-5,441,533	08/15/1995	Johnson et al.	
,,,,,,,,,,,,		us-5,413,142	05/09/1995	Johnson et al.	
		us-5,230,335	07/27/1993	Johnson, Jr. et al.	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ 'Number ⁴ 'Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
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	No. ¹	Cite No.1 Country Code3 Number 4 Kind Code5 (if known)	Cite No. 1 Foreign Patent Document Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY Country Code 3 Number 4 Kind Code 5 (if known)	Cite No.1 Foreign Patent Document Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY Applicant of Cited Document Country Code ³ 'Number ⁴ 'Kind Code ⁵ (if known) Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY Applicant of Cited Document	Cite No.1 Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ Number ⁴ 'Kind Code ⁵ (if known) Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY Applicant of Cited Document Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear

Examiner	Date	
	Considered	1
Signature	Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.